



ADVISORY

No. 232

October 4, 2021

Concurrent use of Opioids and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)

As announced by CMS on December 30, 2020, Section 1006(b) of the SUPPORT Act amended the Social Security Act. In accordance with this CMS mandate, the Office of Pharmacy Services (OPS) will implement the following coverage changes, **effective October 18, 2021**:

1. If a patient has MAT drug on file (within 45 days) and Opioid claim is adjudicated, the Point of Sale Claims Processing system would look back for 30 days and if no opioid on file, then allow up to 7 day supply. Regardless of the day's supply of the incoming claim for opioid, if there is utilization of opioids within the last 30 days, the incoming opioid claim will deny and require Prior Authorization.
2. Patients requiring both an Opioid medication for greater than 7 days while undergoing MAT will require Prior Authorization.
3. Patients will have access to MAT regardless of a history or current therapy with an opioid medication.

Provider Advisories <https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/pap/Pages/Provider-Advisories.aspx>

In an effort to give timely notice to the pharmacy community concerning important pharmacy topics, the Maryland Department of Health (**MDH**) **Office of Pharmacy Services (OPS)** has developed the **Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program Advisory**.

To expedite information timely to the pharmacy and prescriber communities, an email network has been established which incorporates the email lists of the Maryland Pharmacists Association, EPIC, CARE, Long Term Care Consultants, headquarters of all chain drugstores and prescriber associations and organizations.

It is our hope that the information is disseminated to all interested parties. If you have not received this email through any of the previously noted parties or via MDH, please contact the OPS representative at 410-767-1455.